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Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

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1. European AIDS Treatment Group

Special, 2005

Introduction

The European AIDS Treatment Group is a European network of nationally based volunteer activists comprising over 110 members from 40 countries in Europe. Our members are representatives of different communities and countries affected by HIV/AIDS in Europe. Since its foundation, the Group has represented and defended the treatment-related interests of people living with HIV/AIDS. Its activities focus on treatment literacy and treatment advocacy. In responding to HIV, the Group considers diseases frequently seen as co-infection in people with HIV, as well as other health issues that increase the risk of HIV of prime importance. In the past few years, the Group has increased its activities on co-infections, such as hepatitis C, hepatitis B and tuberculosis. The primary geographic focus is member States served by the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for Europe. However, the European AIDS Treatment Group considers all potential opportunities for collaboration and support for similar efforts in other parts of the world.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The activities of the European AIDS Treatment Group focus on treatment literacy and treatment advocacy. A major goal for the Group when it was founded in 1992 was the simultaneous development of therapies in Europe, including not only antiretroviral therapies, but also treatments for opportunistic infections and other AIDS-related conditions. Gaining access to the best available treatments is a major goal of the Group. This includes access for all people who could benefit from the treatment, including so-called "sub-populations" such as drug users, women, children, migrants, people with hepatitis or tuberculosis coinfection, with haemophilia and others; access for patients in all stages of HIV infection (including first-line, salvage); and access to treatment in all European countries (according to the WHO definition of the European region).

Significant changes in the organization

The European AIDS Treatment Group has managed to develop a model of an organization that covers three very different areas of expertise: advocacy; research; and education. It has also been able to effect political change at every level from local grass roots to European and global entities. One critical development has been the inclusion of hepatitis C virus and tuberculosis coinfections in its work. Its work on hepatitis C virus and the meetings held in Sitges, Spain, have been invaluable in advocating for more research on the hepatitis C virus and among HIV-positive patients.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Collaboration between the European AIDS Treatment Group and the United Nations is mainly through the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). The Group has a representative within the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board who works on issues of human rights and funding for HIV treatment as prevention, among others. One of the members of the Group has been

taking part in the response to HIV of the UNAIDS Reference Group on HIV and Human Rights.

The Group co-chairs the Civil Society Forum on HIV. The meetings of the Forum include updates from the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe, UNAIDS and the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, as well as reports on the work of the European Union Presidencies on HIV/AIDS.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Group participated in the 33rd UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board pre-meetings and Board meeting from 2009 to 2012, and the UNAIDS Reference Group meeting on HIV and Human Rights.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Group collaborates mostly with UNAIDS. On 20 September 2012, the Group, together with Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe, the International Planned Parenthood Federation, and the European AIDS Treatment Group, held an HIV criminalization seminar in Berlin. The event, supported in part by the HIV in Europe Initiative, brought together civil society advocates from across Europe and Central Asia with human rights experts, prosecutors, clinicians, parliamentarians and representatives of UNAIDS and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goa.

Most of the activities of the Group are linked to the Millennium Development Goals as it focuses on (the lack of) access to treatment, care, testing and prevention. One example was the satellite connection it organized on 17 July 2011 for the sixth International AIDS Society conference on HIV pathogenesis, treatment and prevention, held in Rome, on the theme "Controlling the epidemic: the promise of antiretroviral-based prevention," to which UNAIDS was invited as a guest speaker.

2. Generations United

Special, 2005

Introduction

Generations United is the oldest and largest international membership organization focused solely on promoting intergenerational strategies, programmes and policies. The organization represents more than 100 international, national, State and local organizations representing more than 70 million Americans. It is the only organization advocating for the mutual well-being of children, youth and older adults.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Generations United serves as a resource for educating policymakers and the public about the economic, social and personal imperatives of intergenerational cooperation. Through its publications, website, programme database and expert

training, Generations United provides a forum for those working with children, youth and older adults to explore areas of common ground while celebrating the richness of each generation.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Based on the 2009 Intergenerational Solidarity expert group meeting New York, Generations United published a book chapter in the publication *Intergenerational Solidarity: Strengthening Economic and Social Ties* in 2010; the book was translated into Spanish in 2011. The organization also provided advice on intergenerational practices to the Bangladesh Youth Leadership Centre, the Korea Association of Senior Welfare Centers (Republic of Korea) and the Koerber Foundation (Germany).

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In 2011, Generations United collaborated with other NGOs one of three background papers on the subject "Policies and programmes supporting intergenerational relations" to be featured in the upcoming observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family (2014).

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

Supporting the Millennium Development Goals is woven throughout all of the work of Generations United. In 2012, the organization published "Hunger and Nutrition in America: What's at Stake for Children, Families and Older Adults." The organization's Seniors4Kids initiative advocated for investments in preschool education, children's health programmes and school breakfast and lunch programmes.

3. Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society

Special, 2005

Introduction

The international public organization, Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society, is the oldest non-governmental organization in Russia, established in 1882. The Society is historically compatible with countries and nations of the Middle East and the Mediterranean region.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The main aims and objectives of the Society is the establishment and development of humanitarian, cultural, scientific, religious and social relations with

the peoples of the Middle East and North Africa, the preservation of the Orthodox cultural heritage and the development of relations between Russia and the countries of the Middle East region, and the contribution of Orthodox pilgrimage. To achieve its objectives, the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society uses the opportunities and potential of its branches in the region. In June 2012, in celebration of its 130th anniversary in Russia and abroad, a large international exhibition was held at the Central Exhibition Hall in Moscow with the participation of famous Russian museums, the Russian Orthodox Church and foreign experts. Thematic seminars, lectures and cultural exchanges were also held in Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon and other countries in the Middle East region.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society helped build the Jericho Russian Museum and park complex (in Palestine) with archaeological exhibits, and the Centre for Science and Culture of the Russian Federation in Bethlehem (Palestine), and started construction of secondary schools for Orthodox Arabs. The Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society undertook humanitarian work in support of the people of the Syrian Arab Republic, distributing 70 tons of food, medicine and school supplies.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Society's activities help achieve the Millennium Development Goals through educational programmes and the construction of secondary schools in the Middle East region, and the preservation of cultural heritage and strengthening of friendly relations with the peoples of the Middle East and the Mediterranean. In the past three years, the Society provided support for building the Centre for Science and Culture in Palestine. The Society regularly sends Russian teachers to local secondary schools. The Society actively carries out humanitarian projects in the region, including in the Syrian Arab Republic, sending modern medical equipment to the Central Hospital of Damascus (such as defibrillators, ventilators, neonatal incubators, wheelchairs and medical supplies). The Society also sent planes to deliver blankets and other basic necessities to Syrians who lost their homes.

4. Innu Council of Nitassinan (Innu Nation)

Special, 1997

Introduction

Innu Council of Nitassinan (Innu Nation) is an international body representing the 20,000 Innu found in 11 communities of eastern Quebec and Labrador (Canada).

Aims and purposes of the organization

To advocate, promote and support the work of all Innu organizations aimed at advancing the economic, social and cultural rights of the Innu at all levels through representation, lobbying and negotiations at the domestic and international levels.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Innu Council of Nitassinan has been an active participant in the work of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and was an active member of the Indigenous Team during the negotiations of the Nagoya Protocol. The Innu Council of Nitassinan was the first indigenous organization from Canada to have translated the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples into the Innu indigenous language.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives of the Innu Council of Nitassinan attended meetings of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Innu Council of Nitassinan participated in the negotiations leading to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization (Convention on Biological Diversity). In Montreal, through the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Innu Council of Nitassinan was an active indigenous participant in the negotiations leading to the Agreement on the Nagoya Protocol.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

Through public education and publications, and with local, regional and national media in Canada, the Council communicates with and educates people in its indigenous language about the importance of the work of the United Nations with respect to the Millennium Development Goals.

5. Institute for War and Peace Reporting

Special, 1997

Introduction

The Institute for War and Peace Reporting gives voice to people at the frontlines of conflict, crisis and change. From Afghanistan to Zimbabwe, the Institute helps people in the world's most challenging environments gain access to the information they need to drive positive changes in their lives by holding governments to account, demanding constructive solutions, strengthening civil society and securing human rights. Amid war, dictatorship and political transition, the Institute forges the skills and capacity of local journalism, strengthens local media institutions, and engages with civil society and governments to ensure that information achieves impact.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Institute contributes to fundamental transformation in areas of conflict and crisis, launching projects with quick impact while strategizing for long-term engagement, bringing in multiple donors and often establishing sustainable local institutions. The core pillars of its work are promoting free expression, strengthening accountability, and building inclusive societies. Thematic streams include conflict-sensitive reporting, women's rights and journalism, reporting on human rights and justice, youth education, election coverage in the context of societies in conflict post-conflict situations, and governance and transparency, including policy reform. Activities include training, reporting, capacity-building, policy and advocacy. By democratizing the flow of information and providing people with the opportunity to have their voices heard, the Institute contributes to the core United Nations objectives of peace, equitable development, human rights and equality.

Significant changes in the organization

Over the past four years, the Institute has significantly expanded its remit. The organization is now active in more than three dozen countries around the world, from Latin America to Asia, from the Balkans and Eurasia to the Islamic Republic of Iran, from the Middle East and North Africa to the Great Lakes Region and elsewhere in Africa. The Institute has also extended its core work with local journalists to significant engagement with civil society organizations, enhancing their capacity and strengthening their voices, as well as those of citizen journalists and others seeking to be heard. The Institute is also increasingly working directly with governments, where appropriate, to support reform of media policy and legal frameworks, and assisting in strengthening transparency, accountability and good governance.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Institute cooperates regularly with multilateral organizations, particularly the United Nations. For example, the Institute has been a longstanding partner of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in the authoritative Refworld publication, which aims to promote better informed decision-making in the field of refugee claims and asylum procedures. The Institute also

frequently works with United Nations missions, recently cooperating closely with the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Yemen and the Department of Political Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat. The Institute is working closely with the United Nations on a major programme to reform media policy in Rwanda and in Iraq, and has also worked closely with the United Nations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Institute has had a longstanding relationship with the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia to support the work of the Tribunal since its very establishment.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives of the Institute regularly attend meetings of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris on freedom of expression and cooperative initiatives to strengthen citizens' voices and the media in developing and transitional societies, such as recent meetings on changes in the Middle East and the North Africa region.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Institute works closely with numerous United Nations bodies. These include, in particular, UNDP, UNESCO, UNHCR and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM, now part of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women). The Institute often cooperates and coordinates media development and capacity-building programming in conflict and transitional societies with UNESCO and UNDP. Through its work in conflict areas, the Institute strengthens the capacity of local journalists to report sensitively and accurately on refugees and internally displaced persons, frequently engaging with UNHCR for training and information and as a source for in-depth reporting that highlights the issue and the work of the agency. The Institute maintains a strong commitment to women's programming, and liaises with UN-Women in many areas.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Institute undertakes a range of programming to strengthen the voices of women across the Middle East, Central Asia, the Caucasus, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Africa and Asia. This includes the provision of training, direct support, and assistance in employment and strengthening their roles within existing institutions. The Institute also supports advocacy on women's empowerment and equality, directly contributing to Millennium Development Goal 3. The overarching work of the Institute on peacebuilding and confidence-building through the strengthening of citizens' voices addresses violent conflict, which is one of the core causes of poverty, degradation, human rights abuses, inequality, violence against women and environmental damage.

6. International Federation of Women in Legal Careers

Special, 1961

Introduction

The International Federation of Women in Legal Careers is an NGO of women jurists that was founded in Paris in 1928 with the aim of fighting for the eradication of all forms of discrimination against women and promoting their human rights. It has representatives in North and Latin America, Europe, Africa and Asia. The Federation collaborates with UNESCO, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Labour Organization (ILO).

Aims and purposes of the organization

The activities of the Federation are inspired by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, since they are consecrated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and reaffirmed in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

The Federation aims to: promote the above-mentioned fundamental principles; encourage and help its members in their activities with parliaments, governments or other competent authorities, as well as in public opinion, in order to have the above-mentioned principles embodied in national legislation and applied at a practical level in the judicial system and in social administration; assemble information about the juridical, social and economic status of women all over the world and to study laws affecting that status; promote the establishment of friendship and unity among its members, as well as with other international jurist associations; and contribute to the promotion of peace in the world.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the Federation organized events on the following themes: in 2009, on the "Right to peace;" in 2010, on "Migrant Women;" in 2011, on "Women's human rights; hunger for Justice;" and in 2012, on "Peace: guarantee of human rights."

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Federation participated in the following sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women: 2009, fifty-third; 2010, fifty-fourth; 2011, fifty-fifth; and 2012, fifty-sixth. It also organized side events at those meetings and participated in side events organized by other NGOs. The Federation participated in the following sessions of the Commission for Social Development: forty-seventh in 2009; forty-eighth in 2010; forty-ninth in 2011; and fiftieth in 2012. It also attended conferences at FAO during the reporting period.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Federation has organized its agenda with the intention of promoting the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, always with the guidance of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. In this regard, its members have campaigned for the ratification of the Optional Protocol. Although the principles of the Federation are in harmony with all the Millennium Development Goals and the outlines of the Convention, they are especially in line with Goal 3: to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women.

7. Kuwait Information Technology Society

Special, 2005

Introduction

Kuwait Information Technology Society is a non-governmental organization, established in Kuwait on 7 March 1982.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Society aims to: contribute to the scientific and technical progress in computer applications in Kuwait and the world; develop the professional and scientific level of those working in the computer field; step up cooperation and exchange of expertise among computer staff in various technical, scientific and professional aspects; and extend counsel in the field of computers to individuals, companies, and public establishments and agencies.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the activities of the Kuwait Information Technology Society focused on Internet governance. It participated in meetings of the Internet Governance Forum, including: in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, in 2009; in Lithuania in 2010, in Kenya in 2011; and in Azerbaijan in 2012. It continued to be a member of the Internet Governance Forum Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group, which is appointed by the Secretary-General. The role of the Advisory Group is to set the agenda for and establish the structure of the meetings of the Internet Governance Forum. The Society participated in all the meetings and open consultations of the Advisory Group held between 2009 and 2012 in Geneva.

During the open consultations held in Geneva in February 2011, the Society worked with other stakeholders to reflect the impact of the "Arab Spring" on the programme of the sixth meeting of the Internet Governance Forum, held in Nairobi, and was successful in including the theme of "the Internet as the catalyst for

change". At the seventh meeting of the Internet Governance Forum, held in Baku, the Society was the working group coordinator for Internet Governance for Development, which was responsible for setting the themes and sub-themes of the session, proposing and choosing the list of panellists, moderators and conducting the session orientation.

At the regional level, the Society actively participated in an expert group meeting on the need for an Arab Internet Governance Forum. The meeting, which was organized by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), was held in October 2010. The meeting outcome focused on a call to Arab governments and stakeholders to support and endorse the Arab Internet Governance Forum. The Arab communication ministers noted this call and requested an open consultation. The Society played a major role in sponsoring and organizing the open consultations which took place in Beirut in January 2012, and it successfully chaired and hosted the First Arab Internet Governance Forum in Kuwait from 9 to 11 October 2012 under the umbrella of the League of Arab States and ESCWA. For the second meeting of the Arab Internet Governance Forum, the Society continued to chair the Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group of the Arab Internet Governance Forum (up to the present).

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- Internet Governance Forum open consultations and Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group meetings, Geneva (February 2009, May 2009, February 2010, May 2010, February 2011, May 2011, February 2012 and May 2012).
- Internet Governance Forum meetings (Sharm El Sheikh 2009, Lithuania 2010, Kenya 2011 and Baku 2012)
- World Summit on the Information Society cluster events in Geneva (May 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Society cooperates with the IGF secretariat at the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and with ESCWA.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

No activities were specified.

8. Mediterranean Council for Burns and Fire Disasters

Special, 2001

Introduction

The Mediterranean Council for Burns and Fire Disasters is the only professional organization concerned with burns and fire disasters in the world with accreditation at the United Nations. It is guided by the spirit, mission and action of the United Nations in its international scientific and humanitarian work, and supports the tenets of the United Nations in every way.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The primary aim of this (NGO)is to promote and ensure high quality and equitable care for patients who have extensive burns, for societies and communities that have suffered fire disasters, and for victims of toxic explosions, nuclear accidents and complex emergencies, in the spirit of alleviating suffering and strengthening international cooperation. It also promotes fire prevention and safety at home and at work, and introduces appropriate technology, especially in developing countries. The Council is a highly professional scientific group, that is grounded in solid technical work but that has a social conscience, which expects that such work should promote the well-being of all people, based on the health, humanitarian, scientific and peace-promoting principles of the United Nations and of WHO. It is in appreciation of those values that WHO has already redesignated this organization as a "WHO Collaborating Centre" for the next four years. This is an important recognition of the professional activities that have been promoted until this point in time.

Significant changes in the organization

The general assembly of the Council, held on 2 April 2010, in Istanbul, Turkey, approved the change of name of the association to the Euro-Mediterranean Council for Burns and Fire Disasters.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The *Annals of Burns and Fire Disasters*, the official organ of the Council, has appeared regularly as a quarterly from 1987 with an average run of over 3,200 copies per issue. The publication includes a section on WHO and the United Nations, which is an instrument of dissemination of important information regarding those organizations, as well as the *Journal of Humanitarian Medicine*, the only journal in the sector. Both publications are listed in Pub Med and Scopus and are present in the Alexandrine Library in Alexandria (Egypt) and in the United States National Library of Medicine.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Council has regularly attended sessions of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva. It has also regularly attended the annual sessions of the World Health Assembly and the WHO Executive Board during the reporting period. United Nations and WHO officials are always invited to the Council's conferences.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Council works closely with WHO.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

From 2009 to 2011, the Council collaborated with the International Association for Humanitarian Medicine to carry out a project in the Democratic Republic of the Congo called "Développement d'un Centre spécialisé pour la réduction de la mortalité et de l'invalidité causées par les brûlures en âge pédiatrique" (Development of a specialized centre for the reduction of paediatric

morbidity and mortality from burns). It also opened a 10-bed capacity Paediatric Burn Unit in the Mont-Amba Hospital of the Kinshasa University Hospital, and constructed a 'multimedia classroom' for the training of doctors and paramedical staff. The Council also created a technical/professional training course for clinicians who work in 24 other hospitals and first aid posts in the province of Kinshasa. An education prevention campaign was launched with the distribution of illustrative teaching materials to treat the most frequent types of burn injuries in this area. The medical and training staff of the Council worked for more than 150 hours for the completion of teaching courses and surgical activities in the area.

9. National Association of Cuban Economists

Special, 1997

Introduction

The National Association of Cuban Economists is a Cuban non-governmental organization founded on 14 June 1979. It is made up of a National Committee of 75 members elected in Congress every five years, with a National Executive Council and Provincial Committees with their corresponding Councils in the 14 provinces of the country, as well as 169 Committees in Municipalities and 4,743 grass-roots sections that include more than 79,565 associated members.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Association has 17 Scientific Societies in which the affiliated members take part according to their specialty and professional interest. The Association is completely self-financed. Its members pay a monthly fee, and through its Consultancy Enterprise, technical, economic, and accounting advice is offered by more than 1,290 consultants (80 per cent of whom are retirees). This Consultancy provides the Association with the necessary financial means for its performance. Among its main objectives are promoting professional upgrading and increasing the knowledge of all the workers connected with the economic established practice, to provide advice and training, and to maintain relations with professionals and international institutions linked to the economy, giving special emphasis to participation in those work groups concerning the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

- Worked on the international workshop for international experience in cooperatives organized with UNDP in Cuba.
- Promoted United Nations aims.
- Provided priority to issues related to ageing population and the struggle against corruption in the Association's forums, scientific congress and conferences.

- Organized the XI and XII International Congress on Globalization and Development on economic issues with the participation of more than 60 countries, nine Nobel Laureates, 25 world and regional organizations, and five heads of State.
- Edited a book on international economic performance from 2000 to 2011 in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).
- Provided assistance to the VII Ministerial Conference of World Commerce Organizations, which recognized the National Association of Cuban Economists as an NGO that is capable of assisting at those conferences.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- The Association attended the Human Rights Council in Geneva in February 2009 as an observer. Its delegation participated in a panel that denounced the economic war waged by the United States of America against Cuba. In June 2009, the same delegation presented a statement at the general meeting.
- The Association attended the 30th session of ECLAC, held in Brazil in May 2010.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- The Association has regular contacts with UNDP FAO and the World Bank.
- In collaboration with UNDP, the Association is developing projects on cooperatives and local development in Cuba.
- The Association developed, in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), a programme on HIV/AIDS in Cuba.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

- A delegation of the Association participated in an international workshop about the Earth in Evián, France, in 2011.

10. Widows Rights International

Special, 2001

Introduction

The main activities of Widows Rights International aim to campaign for widows' rights in the international arena, and provide widows' groups, widows' activists, lawyers and others concerned with women's rights with an information platform.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aim of the organization is to eradicate harmful cultural practices and their modern manifestations which deeply hinder the lives of widows and their children in most countries in Africa and abrogate their rights. The organization also works to

ensure that governments adhere to their international obligations to end all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

In support of the work of the United Nations, the organization lobbies ministers from the Commonwealth's 54 member States to raise awareness of the mistreatment and lack of rights of widows and their girl children, and that governments are not implementing their commitments under the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women and other human rights conventions. The organization also raises those issues at other international forums which they attend. During the reporting period, trustees of the organization made various presentations to: (a) Commonwealth Magistrates and Judges Association Conferences in 2011 and 2012; (b) the Commonwealth Law Conference on "Widows Rights are Human Rights" in 2012; (c) the International Symposium on Women as Agents of Change sponsored by the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Foreign Press Association in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in 2012; (d) the seminar on the theme "Windows on Widows" at the United Kingdom House of Lords attended by the Minister of State for International Development in 2012; and (e) the International Federation of Women Lawyers (United Kingdom) Conference on: the impact of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women on women's rights in the new world order.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

When funds permit, the organization attends the sessions of the Commission on the Status on Women and other United Nations entities such as the Human Rights Council in Geneva. Over the past four years, the organization has co-sponsored with other international NGOs side events during the annual meetings of the Commission on the Status on Women at which panels of speakers from several countries decried the continuing lack of government action to end the abuses that widows suffer. The organization also issues an annual statement at the Commission on the Status on Women on the situation facing widows.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization followed the meeting of the Human Rights Council in Geneva in 2012 and circulated the recommendations and relevant reports to its partner organizations in Africa and South Asia. It also circulated all statements about widows and human rights made by the Secretary-General, the Under-Secretary-General of UN-Women, and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

No activities were specified.

11. Women and Memory Forum

Special, 2009

Introduction

Founded in 1995 in Egypt, the Women and Memory Forum is composed of a group of women academics, researchers and activists concerned about the negative representations and perceptions of Arab women in the cultural sphere. Dominant cultural views and images of Arab women constitute a major stumbling block in the course of women's development and the attainment of their rights. The Forum believes that one of the main obstacles facing Arab women now is the scarcity of alternative cultural information and knowledge about the role of women in history and in contemporary society. The group decided to attain a formal status in order to advocate and promote the integration of gender as a category of analysis in the study and interpretation of Arab history and the social sciences in general. The long-term objective of the specialized research of the Forum is to produce and make available alternative cultural information about Arab women that can be used for raising awareness and empowering women.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Forum looks forward to a society in which justice and equal opportunities for men and women prevail; a vibrant society capable of constantly producing alternative knowledge in order to reshape power relations within the different social structures in such a way that would support and maintain human dignity in the face of all forms of discrimination. In order to accomplish its vision, the Forum adopts a gender-based cultural mission. Through this mission, it aims to contribute effectively to the production and dissemination of alternative knowledge concerning women in the Arab region. It also aims at re-reading Arab tradition and cultural history in order to create a new cultural and social awareness that is supportive of women's social and intellectual roles in the face of dominant negative stereotypes. The Forum aims at accomplishing a major goal, namely, to support and empower women through the production and dissemination of alternative knowledge.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Women and Memory Forum, through its work on gender and research, has contributed to the work of the United Nations by focusing on advancing the cause of women's political empowerment and leadership in Egypt. Indeed, the Forum was awarded a grant from the UN-Women Fund for Gender Equality to further this work on women's empowerment in the political sphere.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Forum attended the following meetings: the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 1-12 March 2010, New York; Department of Public Information/NGO United Nations briefing session at the United Nations, 4 March 2010, on "Equal Rights Equal Opportunities — Progress for All: Arab

Women 15 Years after Beijing;" and the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 27 February to 9 March 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Forum was awarded a grant from the UN-Women Fund for Gender Equality grant to further its work on women's empowerment in the political sphere. The Forum attended many meetings at the national level at UN-Women in Cairo.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Forum has contributed to the Millennium Development Goals through its work to empower women and promote gender equality in Egypt. The Forum has contributed to leading work on gender in the new Egyptian Constitution and to forming a coalition of feminist NGOs to apply pressure to include gender equality in the Egyptian constitution. In addition, the organization would have been able to contribute more to the implementation of United Nations programmes had there not been political instability in Egypt and the difficulty for NGOs to do their work.

12. Women for Women's Human Rights — New Ways

Special, 2005

Introduction

Women for Women's Human Rights — New Ways, an independent women's non-governmental organization, was founded in 1993. Through two decades of persistent activism, advocacy and networking, the organization has contributed to various legal reforms in Turkey, the advancement of sexual and bodily rights in Muslim societies and the promotion of women's human rights at the United Nations level.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization aims to promote women's human rights at the local, national, regional and international levels, enabling women to become active agents in the process for social change, democratization and peace. The organization has an integrative approach towards the issue of women's human rights, taking into consideration the connections among various issues relevant to women (i.e., violence against women, economic rights, legal rights, sexuality, fertility rights, and rights of girl children).

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization initiated and co-coordinated the NGO shadow report preparation process for the sixth periodic country review of Turkey under the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women; the prepared text was compiled by a coalition of 20 women's and lesbian, gay, bisexual

and transgender NGOs and endorsed by six nationwide women's coalitions. A representative of the organization attended the pre-session meeting and presented a short summary of the report to the Committee in July 2009. In July 2010, an NGO delegation, co-coordinated by the organization, was present to advocate to the Committee and government officials from Turkey in the official review. During the session, the delegation also held a press and publicity campaign highlighting women's demands in Turkey. Following the review, the organization coordinated activities to raise awareness and make utmost use of the review process for advocacy at the national level.

The organization prepared an NGO shadow report on the current situation in Turkey for the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its meeting held in May 2011 in Geneva. The report was undersigned by 20 NGOs from Turkey, as the report was the first shadow report prepared by women's organizations in Turkey for the initial review of Turkey under the review process of the Economic and Social Council.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- The fifty-third session of United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, 2-13 March 2009, New York; organized a parallel event on the theme "Reconciliation of work and family life for the equal sharing of responsibilities: case studies from an international research" and participated in the Government delegation of Turkey;
- The fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 1-12 March 2010, New York; coordinated an NGO delegation from Turkey and participated in the Government delegation of Turkey;
- The fifty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 22 February to 4 March 2011, New York; participated in the Government delegation of Turkey and co-organized a panel discussion on sexual and bodily rights in Muslim societies;
- The fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, 27 February to 9 March 2012, New York; participated in the Government delegation of Turkey.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization was selected to serve in the Special United Nations Task Force on the International Conference on Population and Development plus 20 and the Millennium Development Goals plus 15 in 2012 and attended several of their meetings.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization spearheaded the foundation in 2012 of a working group of NGOs working in the sphere of sexual and reproductive health and rights (in Turkey, including the Turkey Family Planning Association, the Human Resource Development Foundation, the Willows Foundation, academicians and social workers. The group was formed to work on national and international level advocacy on International Conference on Population and Development plus

20 processes, as well as the Millennium Development Goals and post-Millennium Development Goal processes. The group is expected to expand its member base to become a platform and have specific activities on the above-mentioned issues in the upcoming years.

13. World Russian People's Council

Special, 2005

Introduction

The World Russian People's Council is a cultural, educational and charitable social organization, as well as a major forum of the Russian people functioning since 1993. The Council's yearly meetings are attended by representatives of the government, social organizations, the clergy of Russia's traditional religions, leading figures in scientific and cultural life, delegates from Russian-speaking communities of the diaspora, and representatives of youth and women's organizations. The Head of this Council is the Most Holy Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, Kirill.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Aims: supporting the spiritual, cultural, social and economic revival of Russia; supporting the cooperation of the Orthodox Church with other traditional religions in the interests of the moral healing of society, as well as the elimination of religious extremism and intolerance. Purposes: uniting constructive forces to resolve problems in the realm of spiritual rebirth, culture, economics, ecology, preservation of the environment and natural resources, and social life; strengthening of friendly relations between national and ethnic groups, overcoming inter-ethnic dissension and separatism; fighting against international terrorism; defending the rights and interests of Russians living outside the borders of the Russian Federation; collection, study and dissemination of information on every aspect of the life of Russians in the world; supporting the development of friendly relations between the peoples of Russia and other countries with the goal of a world free of coercion; and supporting an interfaith, intercivilization, and intercultural dialogue.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

No contribution was specified.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

2010:

- Regular session of the Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations, of the Economic and Social Council, January, 31, New York;
- Plenary meeting of the Third Committee of the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session with members of the delegation of the Russian Federation delegation, 11 November.

2011:

- Meeting between the Chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate with the Under Secretary-General for Public Information at United Nations Headquarters in New York, 7 February;
- Meeting on the theme "Peace and dialogue between cultures" hosted by UNESCO at United Nations Headquarters, New York, 11 March;
- Working Group on Ageing, 20 April;
- Special meeting of the United Nations General Assembly dedicated to the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Chernobyl accident, attended by the Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon, 26 April;
- Resumed session of the Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations of the Economic and Social Council, 19 and 20 May.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Council participates in meetings and events of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and UNESCO.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

No activities were specified.

14. World Trade Centers Association

Special, 1977

Introduction

The World Trade Centers Association is a member association dedicated to the establishment and effective operation of World Trade Centers as instruments for the expansion of trade. The Association represents more than 320 members in nearly 100 countries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The mission of the Association is to stimulate trade and investment opportunities by helping businesses and economic development and government agencies connect globally. Many members of the Association are in developing countries, supporting their local business communities by forging trade relationships abroad through the Association's programme of reciprocal member cooperation.

The Association operates as a non-profit, non-political global organization that: is open, non-discriminatory and multicultural; is committed to enhancing opportunities for its members and the businesses they serve; and promotes expanding trade and economic prosperity as the single most effective means to achieving peace and stability.

Significant changes in the organization

The Association recruited new members in China (16), India (4), Latin America (18), and Africa (5).

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Association participated in numerous United Nations conferences and events in Europe and Africa, and individual world trade centres hosted events promoting peace and trade, some featuring prominent United Nations officials. For example:

- The world trade centre in Washington, D.C., hosted a reception in June 2011 on the theme "Africa: 53 countries, one union — new challenges", which was attended by Under-Secretary-General Susana Malcorra and Executive Secretary Abdoulie Janneh of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). In July 2010, Nobel Laureate Muhammad Yunus from Grameen Bank addressed a gathering at the world trade centre in Washington, D.C., for a discussion on the theme "Building social business: the new kind of capitalism that serves humanity's most pressing needs." In April 2009, the world trade centre in Washington, D.C., hosted a public forum featuring 2004 Nobel Peace Prize winner Wangari Maathai, who discussed the theme "The challenge for Africa."

- The world trade centre in Mumbai, India, organized the Indiallia 2012 international business forum, at which Mr. Sean Purcell, Chief of the Field Procurement Service of the Procurement Division Department of Field Support of the United Nations Secretariat, provided information on how to find business opportunities through United Nations agencies. The world trade centre in Mumbai commemorated the theme "Peace and prosperity through trade" at a World Trade Centers Association Day reception on 24 June 2010 attended by nearly 200 diplomats, trade promotion and media representatives. At an October 2009 event at the world trade center in Mumbai, Dr. Narendra Jadhav, of India's Planning Commission, delivered the first memorial lecture on the theme "Peace and stability through world trade."

- President of the world trade center in Montevideo, Nelson Pilosof, visited Caracas in June 2009 to deliver presentations on the themes "Peace and fraternal life in modern society" at Andres Bello University, and on "Technology and values in globalization" at Simón Bolivar University.

- The world trade center in San Diego, California, hosted a free public commemoration of the events of 11 September 2001 on 8 September 2011 on the theme "Peace, prosperity and diversity through trade", featuring more than 80 local company exhibits on global trade.

- The world trade center in Oslo was a supporting partner of the Third Annual Summit on Peace through Trade in May 2009 and October 2010.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Association participated in numerous meetings with the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva:

Consultations with the President of the Trade and Development Board, 26 February 2009.

- UNCTAD Secretary-General's Multi-Stakeholder Consultation on Trade and Development, 8 April 2009.
- UNCTAD Public Symposium, Geneva, 18 May 2009.
- Trade and Development Board, forty-seventh Executive Session: High-level Segment on Africa, 30 June 2009.
- Economic and Social Council High-level Segment: High-level Policy Dialogue with International Financial and Trade Institutions, 6 July 2009.
- Trade and Development Board, fifty-sixth session- Opening Plenary, 14 September 2009.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Association maintained relations with the Director General and was invited to regularly meet and address participants of various conferences, particularly on the development of new knowledge-based economies and trade in twenty-first century. The Association maintained contact with the Economic Commission for Europe on infrastructure services issues.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Association contributed to Goal 8, global partnership for development, by engaging a former Colombian trade minister as its newly created Latin American Coordinator to expand the world trade centre network and connect developing economies with trade opportunities.

In support of Goal 1, to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, the world trade center in Istanbul, Turkey, contributed $140,000 to help those suffering from famine in Somalia and called on all world trade centres to contribute to this cause.

The Association contributed to Goal 7, to ensure environmental sustainability, by encouraging members to construct sustainable complexes.

15. Zonta International

General, 1969

Introduction

Founded in 1919, Zonta International is a global organization of executives and professionals working together to advance the status of women worldwide through service and advocacy. Zonta International has 30,000 members in 1,200 Zonta clubs in 65 countries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Zonta International: seeks to improve the legal, political, economic, educational, health and professional status of women at the global and local levels through service and advocacy; works for the advancement of understanding,

goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of executives in business and the professions; promotes justice and universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms; and unites internationally to foster high ethical standards, to implement service programmes, and to provide mutual support and fellowship for members who serve their communities, their nations and the world.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Zonta International is an active leader in NGO activities to support the goals of the United Nations and acts as the treasurer of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women and Treasurer of the NGO Committee on UNICEF. Zonta also attends meetings of the NGO Committee on Trafficking and the NGO Committee on Human Rights. Additional foci include narcotic drugs, ageing, and working with the Working Group on Girls. Zonta also attends meetings of UN-Women and facilitates panel events at regular meetings of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women in New York.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Zonta International attends weekly briefing meetings and annual Department of Public Information/NGO conferences, preparing reports on those meetings for dissemination to its members.

Zonta International has official representatives to the United Nations in New York, Geneva, Vienna and Paris who actively participate in the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations and the NGO Committees on the Status of Women in each location. Representatives of Zonta International regularly attend sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Human Rights Council, the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Economic and Social Council and UNESCO. Special attention is given to women's issues in the Third Committee of the General Assembly and all sessions of the General Assembly. Statements are made to the Economic and Social Council and to the Commission on the Status of Women.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Zonta supported and implemented several projects with United Nations bodies, including the following:

- a project with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to eliminate obstetric fistula and reduce maternal and newborn mortality and morbidity in Liberia, 2008-present;
- a project with UNICEF to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV and to prevent gender-based violence in Rwanda, 2008-present;
- a project with the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM, now UN-Women), to make cities safer for women in El Salvador and Guatemala, 2008-2012;

- a project with the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women to support a community-based centre for housing and rehabilitation of women victims of violence in the Syrian Arab Republic, 2008-2010;

- a project with the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women to combat physical violence against women and support the implementation of anti-discriminatory laws and policies in Egypt, 2008-2010;

- a project with the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women to end violence against women through community action in Cambodia, 2008-2010;

- a project with UN-Women to ensure a gender-responsive humanitarian and early recovery response after the earthquake in Haiti, 2010-2012;

- a project with the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women to support a comprehensive strategy to end violence against women in Cambodia, Nepal and Uganda, 2010-2012; a project with the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women to use mass media education strategies to raise community awareness of violence against women and challenge existing cultural norms and attitudes that condone and endorse violence against women in 11 countries throughout Africa and Asia, 2012-present; a project with the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women to empower communities in rural Samoa to prevent and combat violence against women, 2012-present; and

- a project with UN-Women to strengthen the rights, citizenship and participation of women in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, in order to reduce public and private violence against women, 2012-present.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

Zonta International's global service and advocacy efforts contribute to Millennium Development Goals 1, 3, 5 and 6. Since 2008, Zonta International has supported the efforts of UNICEF to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV in Rwanda, thus contributing to Millennium Development Goal 6. As a result, Rwanda is on track to achieve its first HIV-free generation by 2015. Support for this project also improves maternal health and reduces child mortality, thereby contributing to Millennium Development Goals 5 and 4, respectively.

Since 2008, Zonta International has supported UNFPA and the Global Campaign to End Fistula in Liberia, seeking to improve maternal health (Millennium Development Goal 5) and prevent obstetric fistula, treat women suffering from fistula, and reintegrate them back into their communities. This project also empowers women economically by teaching them livelihood skills to help them become financially independent.

Zonta International funds educational scholarships and awards that promote gender equality in aerospace-related sciences and engineering, business and public affairs, thereby contributing to Millennium Development Goal 3.

At the local and global levels, Zonta's 30,000 members advocate for laws and policies that promote gender equality and empower women in all facets of life.